



PATRICK OGAWA  
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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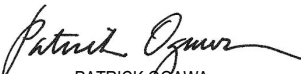
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

January 06, 2015

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January 6, 2015

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

  
PATRICK OGAWA  
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

### **RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ALLOCATION OF REWARD FUNDS RELATING TO CHRISTOPHER LEE BROWN (ALL DISTRICTS) (3-VOTES)**

#### **SUBJECT**

Board approval is being requested for the distribution of reward funds in the amount of \$20,000 to be paid from the Board of Supervisors' discretionary funds.

#### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

Approve the recommendation of the Reward Committee to distribute reward funds in the amount of \$20,000 to be paid from the Board's discretionary funds, to the claimant who provided information to law enforcement that led to the apprehension and/or conviction of Christopher Lee Brown, who escaped from County Jail Inmate Reception Center.

#### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

On March 12, 2014, at approximately 10:00 p.m., Christopher Lee Brown escaped from the Inmate Reception Center. Based on video captured by jail cameras and other evidence, investigators believe Mr. Brown impersonated another inmate in an effort to escape from jail. On March 25, 2014, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, the Board approved a \$20,000 reward for information leading to Mr. Brown's apprehension and/or conviction.

During the investigation, information provided by an individual was instrumental in the apprehension and/or conviction of Mr. Brown. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Detective and arresting Officer both indicated that the individual provided information which led to the apprehension and conviction of Mr. Brown. On May 14, 2014 at the Los Angeles Criminal Court, the defendant received concurrent sentences for the jail escape charge and his original burglary charge. Mr. Brown was sentenced to 56 months in State prison.

Two claims were filed for the reward with the Board of Supervisors, Executive Office. A panel of individuals representing the Sheriff, Chief Executive Office, County Counsel and the Executive Office of the Board reviewed the claims and the panel recommends awarding the \$20,000 reward to one claimant. According to law enforcement, the information provided by only one of the claimants, led to the apprehension and/or conviction of Mr. Brown. In accordance with the Los Angeles County Code, the Board must now consider the claim and approve distribution of the reward funds.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

Approval of the above recommendation supports the County Strategic Goal No. 2 – Community Support and Responsiveness. Publication in local newspapers and posting of reward notices on the County website may encourage persons to provide information to law enforcement, which could lead to the apprehension and/or conviction of individuals who commit crimes, thereby improving the quality of life for residents of Los Angeles County by removing such individuals from the community.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The Board of Supervisors established a \$20,000 reward fund. Pursuant to provisions in the County Code, the reward is to be paid from the Board of Supervisors' discretionary funds in equal shares of \$4,000 from each Supervisor's budget.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

In 1993, the Board of Supervisors adopted an amendment to the County Code establishing procedures for offering case rewards for information leading to the apprehension and/or conviction of persons guilty of criminal acts. Your Board, from time to time, has offered such rewards to encourage citizens to come forward and assist law enforcement with their investigations.

The action recommended is in compliance with the County Code, Title 4 – Revenue and Finance relating to rewards; and specifically Section 4.50.010B, which states “conviction of the person or persons responsible for the crime shall be required for payment of a reward unless the Board of Supervisors makes a finding of impossibility of conviction due to the death or incapacity of such person or persons.”

The Notice of Reward offered was posted on the Board of Supervisors’ website and published in the Los Angeles Daily Journal.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Approval of this recommendation does not impact other current County services or projects.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Ogawa", written in a cursive style.

PATRICK OGAWA

Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

PO:LL:CG:mdc

c: Sheriff  
Interim Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel  
Auditor-Controller